

## Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

## BREASTFEEDING MONTH AUGUST 2022

WHEREAS, Breastfeeding is a universal solution that enables everyone the same, fair start in life, preventing hunger, malnutrition, and food insecurity. Stepping up to enable breastfeeding provides infants the healthiest feeding for the first six months of life, and in combination with family foods through two years of life or longer; and

WHEREAS, Stepping up to enable breastfeeding protects our planet! Breastfeeding is a non-polluting, renewable baby food source, ecologically nurturing the parent-infant bond and ensuring environmental sustainability; and

WHEREAS, Stepping up for breastfeeding through provision of employer breastfeeding support with workplace milk expression breaks enhances breastfeeding success, while also sustaining the economy. Employers benefit from improved staff productivity and morale, lower health insurance costs, and less missed workdays by the parents; and

WHEREAS, Everyone, including government, healthcare providers, employers, the media, family, and friends share the responsibility of stepping up for breastfeeding, with support that empowers and enables each family toward successful breastfeeding outcomes; and

WHEREAS, Maryland citizens are encouraged to breastfeed their children and step up to work together and share the responsibility to protect, promote, and support breastfeeding families by aligning with international, national, and Maryland goals, including those of the United States Surgeon General, the federal Healthcare Reform laws, and the Maryland Hospital Breastfeeding Policies, as well as the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the majority of health care professionals.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim AUGUST 2022 as BREASTFEEDING MONTH in Maryland, and call upon our citizens to join in this observance.

ATIS ATIS AND MANAGEMENT OF THE PROPERTY OF

**Given** Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, this lst day of August

Two Thousand and twenty-two

BAK Stothers

Lt. Governor

Secretary of State